

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-16 are pending.

Reissue Substitute Declaration

Applicants have now enclosed a new Substitute Declaration that more particularly states at least one error upon which the present application is based.

Surrender of Patent

The original patent is now enclosed and being surrendered to the Office.

Divisional Reissue Applications

As requested, the specification has now been amended by including a cross reference to U.S. Patent No. 5,825,421, issued October 20, 1998, and a related divisional reissue application No. 09/691,858, filed on October 18, 2000.

Claims

Claims 13-16 are now in condition for allowance as a new substitute declaration has now been enclosed.

Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

Applicants request that the Examiner acknowledge the IDS submitted on January 9, 2001. A copy of the IDS with a stamped postcard is enclosed.

Acknowledgement of Foreign Priority

In paper No. 4 (PTO-326), the Examiner acknowledged foreign priority by placing an "X" in (13)(b) (Same). The Examiner, however, did not indicate whether certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

Applicant requests that the Examiner clarify the foreign priority acknowledgement.

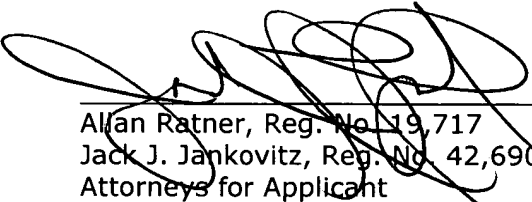
Appln. No.: 09/691,857
Amendment Dated June 24, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 25, 2004

MTS-880US1

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-16 are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: U.S. Patent No. 5,825,421
Reissue Application Declaration
IDS w/copy of stamped postcard

Dated: June 24, 2004

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Danielle Murphy

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